

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

April 13, 2018

The Honorable Donald J. Trump  
President of the United States  
1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President,

It is no secret that some of your strongest support comes from communities that rely on agriculture for survival. As representatives of districts with a heavy agriculture presence, we have been pleased about so much of your administration's work related to agriculture. Your leadership and your administration have been vital in providing much-needed relief to Farm Country, from leading the charge on fundamental tax reform to your administration's U.S.-China 100-Day Action plan securing access for U.S. beef producers to the Chinese market for the first time since 2003. We strongly support your efforts to open China to U.S. agriculture and to take strong steps to end China's unfair trade practices and other cheating.

All our hard-won gains in Farm Country, however, are at serious risk of being wiped away because China is threatening retaliation against American farmers. We appreciate your commitment to stand by U.S. farmers and ranchers in the face of these outrageous threats.

We've seen many recent examples of China's extraordinary threats to our agriculture community. On January 22, the United States Trade Representative announced safeguard tariffs on imported residential washing machines and solar cells and modules. Less than two weeks later, China launched a baseless antidumping and countervailing duty investigation on sorghum imports from the United States. This retaliatory measure is severe, given that a full 77 percent of U.S. sorghum exports are sold to China, with a value of \$1 billion.

Similarly, on March 22, you approved tariffs on imported steel and aluminum under Section 232. That very day, China again took retaliatory measures against America's agriculture exports, proposing tariffs of 15 percent on agricultural goods such as apples, nuts, ethanol, and wine, and a 25 percent tariff on U.S. pork exports. With U.S. pork exports worth \$1.1 billion last year, this reprisal will substantially damage a very important industry.

Most recently, less than 11 hours following the announcement of the Administration's proposed Section 301 product list, China countered with proposed 25 percent tariffs on agricultural goods such as soybeans, corn, frozen orange juice, wheat, and beef. Soybean exports are worth \$14 billion to an agriculture economy already enduring historically tough times.

Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue said recently that farmers are the "tip of the spear when it comes to retaliatory measures" and you have acknowledged that farmers are "great patriots." Our farmers and

ranchers are resilient, but they are already struggling with low commodity prices and drought. With net farm income down by half over the last four years, and no relief on the horizon, they are particularly vulnerable.

Accordingly, we appreciate your support for farmers and ranchers in the face of Chinese retaliation, and we encourage the Administration to work diligently in its negotiations with China to address China's trade practices in a manner that will avoid retaliation, helping to return our agriculture industry to a state of certainty and back on the road to prosperity.

Sincerely,



KRISTI NOEM (SD-AL)  
Member of Congress



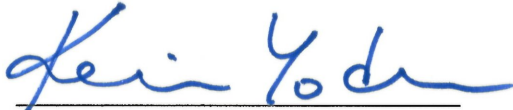
LYNN JENKINS (KS-02)  
Member of Congress



AUSTIN SCOTT (GA-08)  
Member of Congress



GLENN 'GT' THOMPSON (PA-05)  
Member of Congress



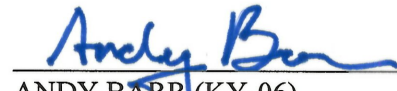
KEVIN YODER (KS-03)  
Member of Congress



JACK BERGMAN (MI-01)  
Member of Congress



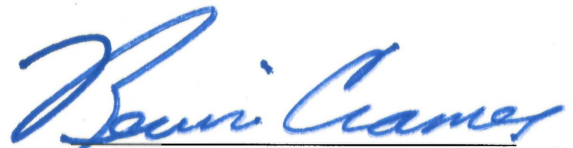
RON ESTES (KS-04)  
Member of Congress



ANDY BARR (KY-06)  
Member of Congress



TOM McCLINTOCK (CA-04)  
Member of Congress



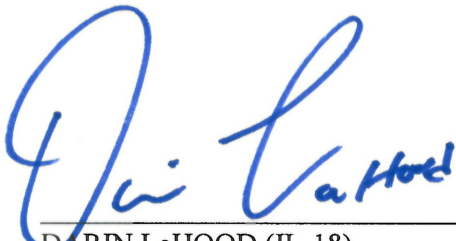
KEVIN CRAMER (ND-AL)  
Member of Congress



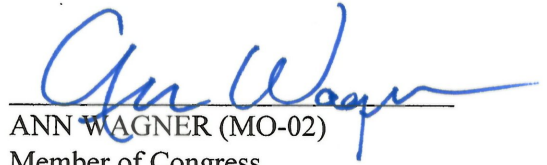
TOM COLE (OK-04)  
Member of Congress



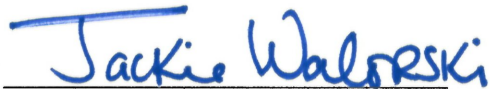
ROD BLUM (IA-01)  
Member of Congress



DARIN LaHOOD (IL-18)  
Member of Congress



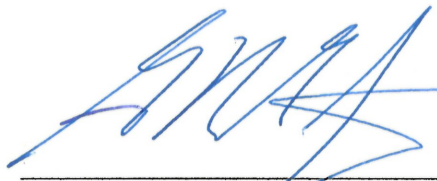
ANN WAGNER (MO-02)  
Member of Congress



JACKIE WALORSKI (IN-02)  
Member of Congress



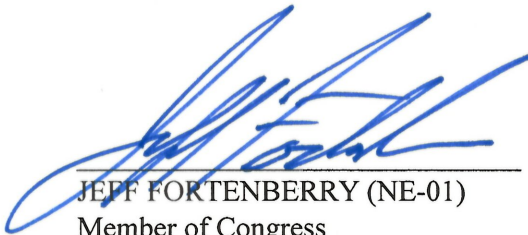
MIKE GALLAGHER (WI-08)  
Member of Congress



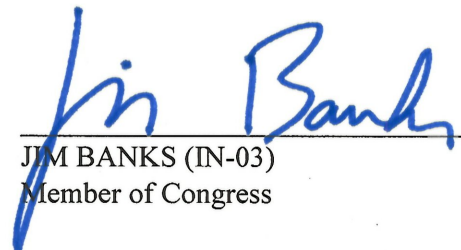
GREG GIANFORTE (MT-AL)  
Member of Congress



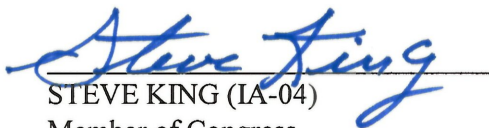
BRAD WENSTRUP (OH-02)  
Member of Congress



JEFF FORTENBERRY (NE-01)  
Member of Congress



JIM BANKS (IN-03)  
Member of Congress



STEVE KING (IA-04)  
Member of Congress



BOB GOODLATTE (VA-06)  
Member of Congress



CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS (WA-05)  
Member of Congress



WARREN DAVIDSON (OH-08)  
Member of Congress

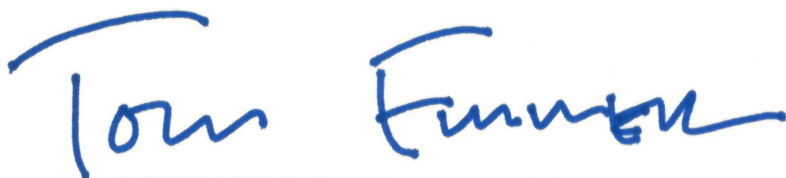




SCOTT TIPTON (CO-03)  
Member of Congress



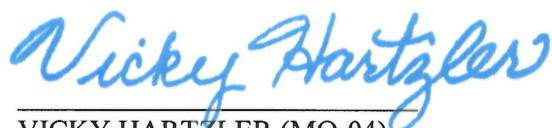
JODEY ARRINGTON (TX-19)  
Member of Congress



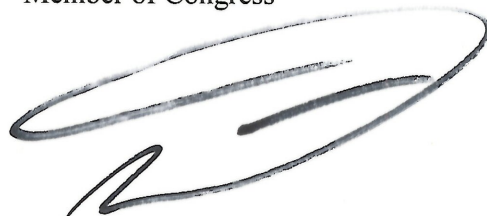
TOM EMMER (MN-06)  
Member of Congress



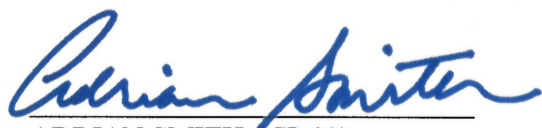
SUSAN W. BROOKS (IN-05)  
Member of Congress



VICKY HARTZLER (MO-04)  
Member of Congress



SCOTT DesJARLAIS (TN-04)  
Member of Congress



ADRIAN SMITH (NE-03)  
Member of Congress



LIZ CHENEY (WY-AL)  
Member of Congress



TOM GRAVES (GA-14)  
Member of Congress



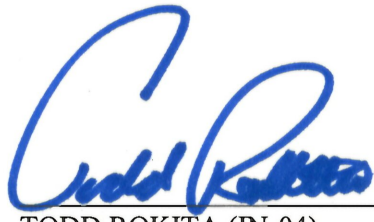
MARKWAYNE MULLIN (OK-02)  
Member of Congress



BRETT GUTHRIE (KY-02)  
Member of Congress



EARL L. 'BUDDY' CARTER (GA-01)  
Member of Congress



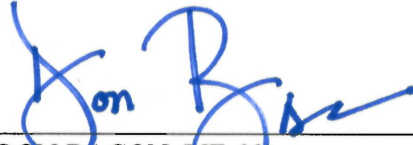
TODD ROKITA (IN-04)  
Member of Congress



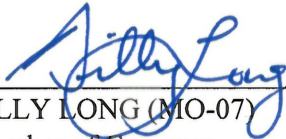
FRANK LUCAS (OK-03)  
Member of Congress



A. DREW FERGUSON, IV (GA-03)  
Member of Congress



DON BACON (NE-02)  
Member of Congress



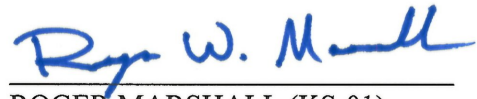
BILLY LONG (MO-07)  
Member of Congress



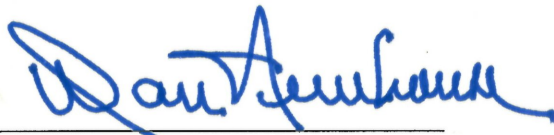
JAMES COMER (KY-01)  
Member of Congress



DAVE REICHERT (WA-08)  
Member of Congress



ROGER MARSHALL (KS-01)  
Member of Congress



DAN NEWHOUSE (WA-04)  
Member of Congress



DAVE BRAT (VA-07)  
Member of Congress